

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. Claims 10-18 have been added.

By the above amendment, the specification has been amended to place it in better form for examination. The claims have been amended to remove some multiple dependencies and present matter cancelled from the multiple dependent claim in single-dependent form. New claims have also been added to further define the invention. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

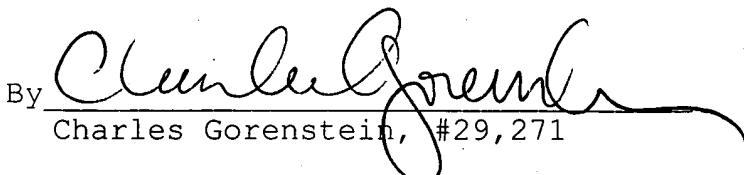
Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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